

Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services

**Questions and Answers
Regarding the New and Modified Service Definitions**

Multisystemic Therapy (MST)

Service Definition Component	Question	Answer
Service Definition	Does MST mean A model of treatment or THE program/model development out of S.C.?	MST is a proprietary, standardized, evidence based practice, developed at Medical University of South Carolina, with very specific training and supervision practices that must be conducted according to the guidelines of the model in order to maintain model fidelity and treatment adherence.
Service Definition	Reading the book on MST and other materials it appears MST is a philosophy or approach to how/where/who to provide services. Can a provider use A.R.T. or some other program as part of MST?	MST is a proprietary, standardized, evidence based practice with very specific training and supervision practices that must be conducted according to the guidelines of the model in order to maintain model fidelity and treatment adherence.
Provider Requirements	Can caregiver be Division of Social Services?	The caregiver could potentially be a foster parent(s) if the child is in a stable placement that Division of Social Services intends to maintain long-term. MST requires a high degree of participation by the caregivers and commitment to the interventions so it would not be appropriate for someone in a short term foster or group home placement.
Staffing Requirements	Does MST require a minimum of one Masters level Qualified	The MST definition requires a minimum of a Masters

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	Professional and three Bachelors level or higher Qualified Professionals?	Qualified Professional supervisor and 3 Bachelors level or higher therapists.
Staffing Requirements	Who can provide supervision of MST?	On-site clinical supervision must be provided by the Master level or higher Qualified Professional supervisor who is part of the MST team. MST supervision is provided by MST Services, Inc. or one of its licensed, Network Partners.
Entrance Criteria	Must clients receiving MST be involved in the Juvenile Justice system?	The MST Services, Inc. web site states that MST targets chronic, violent, or substance abusing youth at high risk of out-of-home placement and their families. These children may or may not have been adjudicated but have likely had some contact with law enforcement or have a history of contact with law enforcement.
Staffing Requirements	May a single team/qualified professional serve the same consumer(s) consistently as the consumer moves from service to service? (e.g., community support to in-home to MST)	Community Support can be provided for 8 units per month to allow for continuity of services. However, the Community Support services, as identified in the Person Centered Plan, should not be provided by an MST staff.
Staffing Requirements	Can team members of Comm. Support, Intensive In-Home, MST, etc. be members of other teams? (Ex. Can a Qualified Professional who does Comm. Support also be on a team that does MST?)	The MST model must be dedicated to MST only because of the high intensity and specificity required of this particular treatment model. Therefore, MST teams would be providers of MST services only.
Staffing Requirements	Can training for Comm. Support, Intensive In-home, or MST be agency internal?	The MST model must be conducted by MST Services Inc. or their Network Partners.
Staffing Requirements	What does the MST team to	The ratio is 1 therapist to 5

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	family ratio of one to five represent, i.e., is this 1-5 families per team or 1 to-5 families per team member?	families and 1-4 person team to 20 families.
Staffing Requirements	In MST who will be qualified to deliver?	MST teams must be licensed through MST Services, Inc. and must maintain ongoing supervision, consultation, and outcome measurement through MST Services, Inc or one of its Network Partners.
Staffing Requirements	We once had a discussion about if a child was receiving MST or In-home Intensive then the Community Support Services task of developing and monitoring the Person Centered Plan reverts to the MST or In-Home Intensive Provider. If this is going to be the case, then why do we allow Community Support at all for those children receiving these intense services?	Community Support in this context would be a transitional service, as a consumer either enters MST or returns to other community programs.
Staffing Requirements	Who is approved to provide phone consultation and training to MST Teams? Child Mental Health - MST cannot be billed while individual is receiving in-home, day treatment, indirect-therapy etc., Is this not on same day, not at same time of day, or at all (both can not be authorized)?	Phone consultation, training, supervision, consultation, and outcome measurement must be provided through MST Services, Inc or one of its Network Partners. Because MST is such an intensive and comprehensive treatment model, MST cannot be billed at all while the individual is receiving Intensive In-Home Services, Day Treatment, Hourly Respite, individual, group or family therapy or Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program.
Clinical Requirements	Will travel time be reimbursed?	Travel time is included in <u>billing rate, and the Clinical Requirements state</u> that 60% of staff time must be spent

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		outside of the agency with or on behalf of the consumer.
Staffing Requirements	Why is the MST lead clinician not required to be licensed, but the intensive in-home lead must be licensed?	Because MST requires such a high level of training on the model and such a high degree of supervision and measurement of treatment outcomes and model adherence, it does not require that therapists be licensed.
Staffing Requirements	Masters in what? (Criminal Justice, Human Services Social Work)	The model prefers a Master's degree in a mental health field, though it allows a Master's degree in "a related human service type field".
Staffing Requirements	Master's Q + Bachelor's Q? Who can provide supervision?	The definition requires a minimum of a Masters QP supervisor and 3 Bachelors level or higher therapists. The MST Services, Inc. prefers Masters level therapists and PhD supervisors but allows for what our standard requires. On-site clinical supervision must be provided by the Master level or higher Qualified Professional supervisor who is part of the MST team. MST supervision is provided by MST Services, Inc. or one of its licensed, Network Partners.
Staffing Requirements	For MST - the training component, do agencies develop their own or is the expectation to "buy" approved training?	All training must be conducted by MST Services, Inc. or one of its licensed, Network Partners
Staffing Requirements	Has the increased cost for MST training been factored into the rates?	Yes, the rate includes the cost for training.
Service Type/Setting	Division staff stated MST could be billed while a child is	Federal Medicaid will deny payment while a child is in

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	in detention, is this correct?	detention but the service can be covered using state funds at that time.
Utilization Management	What happens between the end of 30-day initial authorization and the beginning of the 60-day re-authorization?	The 60-day re-authorization starts after end of the 30-day initial authorization.
Utilization Management	Community Support/Intensive In-home/MST is time-limited- what about chronically M.I. children? What happens to their long term relationships with providers?	MST is designed to be a time-limited service. A child, who had received and had been discharged from MST, would likely receive Community Support, which would provide long term continuity of care.
Entrance Criteria	Regarding MST entrance criteria - the slides said it requires child to be in Juvenile Justice - the draft definition does not say that.	<u>The child or adolescent</u> must display willful behavioral misconduct and be at imminent risk of out of home placement. <u>These identified children may</u> not have been adjudicated but have likely had some contact with law enforcement or have a history of contact with law enforcement.
Service Exclusions/Limitations	If provider can provide case management functions for services like MST and Day Treatment. How will other provider bill community support at the same time? Would this be a problem with Medicaid?	Community support services can be billed for a maximum of 8 units per month in accordance with the person centered plan for the purpose of facilitating transition to the service, admission to the service, meeting with the person as soon as possible upon admission, providing coordination during the provision of service, ensuring that the service provider works directly with the Community Support Professional, and discharge planning.

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Service Exclusions/Limitations	What is relationship between Intensive In-Home Services and MST?	<p>A number of children with multiple needs could be served well in Intensive In-Home. MST targets chronic, violent, or substance abusing youth at high risk of out-of-home placement and their families.</p> <p>MST is a specific, evidence based model of intensive in-home services.</p>
Service Exclusions/Limitations	Could an excluded service be authorized as long as it was not going to be provided at the same time that MST was to be provided?	<p>MST is a comprehensive service that is accessible 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. No excluded services can be authorized for the same time period that MST has been authorized, with the following exception:.</p> <p>Community support services can be billed for a maximum of 8 units per month in accordance with the person centered plan for the purpose of facilitating transition to the service, admission to the service, meeting with the person as soon as possible upon admission, providing coordination during the provision of service, ensuring that the service provider works directly with the Community Support Professional, and discharge planning.</p>
Service Exclusions/Limitations	What are the parameters for the billing exclusions (in home, day treatment, individual therapy, etc.) for this service? Cannot be billed on same day, same time of day, or not at all?	<p>Intensive In-Home Services, Day Treatment, Hourly Respite, individual, group or family therapy or SAIOP cannot be billed while MST is authorized. MST is an intensive and</p>

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		comprehensive treatment model.